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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SOURCE Chinese newspapers as indicated.

PASSENGER MOVEMENTS TO AND FROM TAIWAN

DROP IN TRAFFIC TO TAIWAN -- Ta Kung Pao, 9 Mar 49

Since the Taiwan authorities promulgated their order for strict investigation of all passengers from the mainland to the island, the number of persons seeking to go to Taiwan has fallen off sharply. Transportation companies, steamship and aeroplane, have been hard hit by this development. The National Shipping Association has requested Taiwan authorities to send officers to Shanghai to inspect the credentials of passengers before they embark so as to allay rumors that are causing people to be hesitant about going to the island.

INCREASE IN DEPARTURES FROM TAIWAN -- Hsin-wen Pao, 13 Mar 49

Since the Taiwan authorities issued their regulations restricting admission to Taiwan, there has been a sudden increase in departures from the island. So far only some 400 applications for permits for permanent residence have been approved; therefore, the majority are obliged to return. For awhile, arrivals were many times greater than departures; now the situation is reversed. Transportation companies temporarily have had to discontinue making reservations for outgoing accommodations.

It is maintained by leaders of the people's assemblies that the need for restrictions is due, not to any unwillingness to welcome their compatriots from the mainland or to any other such reason, but solely to the shortage of living accommodations and food supplies caused by the recent sudden influx which forced the price of rice in Taiwan above the mainland price.

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